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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/528,614	03/21/2005	Chee Yu Ng	SG02 0018 US	4038

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EXAMINER

PHAN, RAYMOND NGAN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2111

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/528,614

Applicant(s)

NG ET AL.

Examiner

Raymond Phan

Art Unit

2111

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **Part III DETAILED ACTION**

#### ***Notice to Applicant(s)***

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: amendment filed on September 25, 2006.
2. This application has been examined. Claims 1-6 are pending.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Overtoom et al. (US No. 6,732,218).

In regard to claims 1, 5, Overtoom et al. disclose a bus station 102 for use in a bus communication system (i.e. USB), comprising a first communication port 202 and a second communication port 204, being arranged to operate in a first mode upon detection of the presence of a host station 600 coupled to said second port and to operate in a second mode upon detection of the absence of a host station coupled to said second port (see figure 6, col. 5, lines 47-59), said bus station 102 being arranged in said first mode (i.e. port B connected) of operation to pass communication between said host station coupled to said second port 204 and

a device station coupled to said first port 202 (see figure 6, col. 5, lines 47-59), said bus station further being arranged to operate as an alternate host station (i.e. 102 as host) in said second mode (i.e. port B is not connected) of operation, by communicating with said device station coupled to said first port according to a communication protocol whereby said bus station initiates communications (see figure 6, col. 5, lines 55-59).

In regard to claim 2, Overtoom et al. disclose wherein said bus station is arranged to operate as a USB transceiver (i.e. normal USB hub) in said first mode (i.e. port B connected) of operation (see figure 7, col. 5, lines 47-55) and to operate as a USB host in said second mode of operation (see figure 7, col. 5, lines 55-59).

In regard to claim 3, Overtoom et al. disclose wherein said bus station further comprises transceiver circuitry 200 coupled to said first and second port for passing communication between said host station coupled to said second port and said device station in said first mode of operation (see figure 6, col. 5, lines 23-32).

In regard to claims 4, 6, Overtoom et al. disclose a bus station for use in a bus system comprising a device controller 210 coupled to a communication port, being arranged to operate as a device station, said bus station further being arranged to operate under control of system software, comprising an operating system and host station driver software being arranged to communicate with a host controller and to pass information to and from the operating system, wherein said system software further comprises host emulation software being arranged to emulate the presence of a host controller towards the host station driver software and the presence of device station driver software towards the device controller, further being arranged to translate communications from the host station driver

software to the device controller and vice versa (see col. 3, line 55 through col. 4, line 45).

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. In view of remark filed on September 25, 2006, claims 1-6 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

Applicant(s) argue that ...Overtoom et al. fail to teach or suggest a bus station arranged to operate in a second mode upon detection of the absence of the host station coupled to the second communication port.. (page 5). The Examiner does not agree. Overtoom et al. clearly teach the gateway 104 (i.e. bus station) included the OTG 102 arranged to determine if the connection of B-port (i.e. host station connection to the second communication port) exists (see figure 7, block 704), if no connection exists on the B-port, the microcontroller 206 configures the hub 102 for default host operation [that is for second mode upon detection of the absence of the host station coupled to the second communication port] (see col. 5, lines 47-60).

### ***Conclusion***

6. All claims are rejected.

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Raymond Phan, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3630. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30AM- 4:00PM.

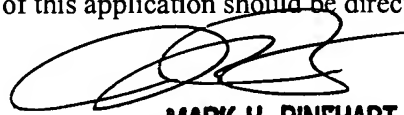
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (571) 272-3632 or via e-mail addressed to mark.rinehart@uspto.gov. The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [raymond.phan@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see [hop://pair-direct.uspto.gov](http://pair-direct.uspto.gov). Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 central telephone number is (571) 272-2100.



**MARK H. RINEHART**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**



**Raymond Phan**  
**November 25, 2006**